

House Health & Human Resources Committee Amendment No. 1

AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 3225

House Bill No. 2489*

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

by deleting in its entirety all the language following the enacting clause, and by substituting instead the following language:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 41, Chapter 51, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section _____. (a) It is the intent of the general assembly to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Tennessee through control of the spread of infectious diseases. The purpose of this act is to require a correctional institution to inform an employee of the infectious disease status of an inmate if the employee has potentially been exposed to an infectious disease by the inmate.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Bloodborne pathogen" means the pathogenic microorganism that is present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

(2) "Exposure incident" means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious material that results from the performance of an employee's duties.

(3) "Source individual" means any inmate, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure.

(c) Following a report of an exposure incident, a superintendent, director, or warden of a correctional institution, county or municipal jail, or workhouse shall

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test the source individual, or source individuals, with or without the source individual's consent, to determine bloodborne pathogen infectivity.

(d) The superintendent, director or warden of the penitentiary, correctional institution, county or municipal jail, or workhouse shall disclose the results of the testing to each correctional employee or law enforcement officer who was involved in the exposure incident and who reasonably believes that he or she may have been exposed to a serious or life-threatening disease or pathogen.

(e) This act does not authorize the release of confidential information to members of the public in violation of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 10-7-504. For the purposes of this act, those correctional employees and law enforcement officers informed of the results of any inmate's test for infectious diseases shall treat the information received as confidential.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.